

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 181

By Matlock

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Houston Lowry for his many years of service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Dr. Houston Lowry, who has devoted much of his time and medical expertise to serving the people of Tennessee through his own practice and through his involvement with the Good Shepherd Center; and

WHEREAS, born in Madisonville in 1926, Dr. Houston Lowry graduated from the old Madisonville High School, attended the University of Tennessee to study chemistry, and, in the fall of 1944, he joined the Marine Corps, where he valiantly served his country for one and a half years in the Active Reserves; and

WHEREAS, after completing his military duty, Dr. Lowry returned to college in the fall of 1946 but suspended his studies for a time to assist his father in the family business; soon afterwards, he was joined in holy matrimony with his wife, Freda Lowry, who is also a native of Madisonville; and

WHEREAS, this blessed union produced eight children, and Dr. Lowry is now a grandfather of twelve and a great-grandfather of eight; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lowry always intended to return to college, and in 1950, he began his medical school studies after he and Freda had their first child; and

WHEREAS, as an intern in Greenville, North Carolina, Dr. Lowry contracted polio and spent several months in the hospital as a patient while completing his internship; he pursued

further training by maneuvering his wheelchair around the hospital, and for the next fifty years, crutches were his means of getting around; and

WHEREAS, during his years of practicing family medicine in Madisonville, Dr. Lowry has treated a wide range of patients and conditions; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lowry began his own practice, which included prenatal care and child delivery; with assistance from midwives and his wife, Freda Lowry, Dr. Lowry delivered countless babies while family members helped tend to his own children; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lowry would sit with the mothers-to-be and assist her husband through the delivery; and

WHEREAS, aside from seeing patients in his office on Tellico Street, Dr. Lowry made frequent house calls and saw patients in his own home; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep spiritual conviction, Dr. Lowry is a lifelong member of Madisonville Presbyterian Church, where he has been actively involved in several ministries, including the Monroe County Ministerial Benevolence Fund, which was originally established to provide assistance to travelers in need; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lowry has also been instrumental in serving with the Good Shepherd Center, which came after the benevolence fund led to local food pantries and the focus shifted from needy travelers to needy Monroe County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Good Shepherd Center offers food, clothing, and help with utilities to county residents in need; Dr. Lowry has served on the Center's Board of Directors for several years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lowry is a long-time supporter of the fifth Sunday ecumenical service, which began in the 1930s; he also served a six-year term on the Madisonville City Court as a Justice of the Peace; and

WHEREAS, he was recently honored for his stalwart commitment and service to the Good Shepherd Center at the annual Good Shepherd Center dinner and auction on February 21, 2009, where he was recognized for his many years of service as a member of the Board of Directors and for his lifetime of service to the people of Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body wishes to pause in its deliberations to extend its sincerest gratitude to Dr. Houston Lowry for his unwavering commitment to the people of Monroe County and for using his medical experience to better his community and this State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Dr. Houston Lowry for his extraordinary achievements and his steadfast service to the people of Monroe County and the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.